

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

To enable processing both the image data of RGB and the image data of CMYK and enhance printing speed, the following measures are taken. An image processor for printing according

5 to the present invention is provided with an expander for expanding both the image data in the first color space of RGB and others and the image data in the second color space of CMYK and others and image data supply means for converting expanded image data to the image data in the second color space and
10 supplying it to a print engine if the expanded image data is the image data in the first color space or supplying expanded image data to the print engine without converting it if the expanded image data is the image data in the second color space.

If image data in the first color space is supplied from a host
15 computer and if image data in the second color space is supplied, the image data is also once compressed and is stored in a memory, the compressed image data is expanded by the image processor for printing as it is, is converted only in the case of the image data in the first color space and is supplied to the print engine
20 as the expanded image data in the second color space.